

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Weather: Warm conditions prevailed across most of the State last week, with high temperatures mostly in the seventies and eighties. Low temperatures ranged from 28 degrees Fahrenheit in Christmas Valley to 47 degrees Fahrenheit in the Willamette Valley, SW Valleys, and North Central Oregon. Echo, Hermiston, and Moro were the only weather stations that reported no rainfall last week, while Crescent City, Detroit Lake, and La Grande were the only stations that received over an inch. According to the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) southeastern Oregon is abnormally dry, and drought conditions in central and eastern areas remain at moderate to severe.

Field Crops: Another week of off and on rain showers slowed haying progress last week. Producers kept busy irrigating, cultivating and spraying as weather permitted. Most spring planting was complete in Malheur County. Aphids and stripe rust was noted in some Gilliam County small grain crops. Winter wheat fields across the State have started to turn color. Harvest is no more than a week away in some areas. Statewide, 62 percent of the winter wheat was rated in good to excellent condition.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Range and pasture conditions remained good to excellent in most areas of the State. Wet weather has continued to promote forage growth and should sustain pastures well into the summer months in many areas. Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the State.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: The cool wet weather has been a mixed blessing to nurseries and greenhouses in the past week. The weather enabled nurseries to postpone summer irrigation, and helped with new tree seedlings, ornamental crops, vegetable and decorative plant starts. In Douglas County where fungicide sprays were used, nursery crops did well. Sales have been mediocre due to the weather.

Vegetables: Vegetable crops were growing slowly due to more rain and cooler weather in Western Oregon. Potatoes were doing well in Washington County. Radishes, shallots, new potatoes, garlic, lettuce mixes, onions, chives, chard, carrots, cauliflower, cabbage were ready in Benton, Linn, and Lane counties. Some early onions were about ready to use. Growers were concerned that the garlic crop may not size up properly due to cooler weather.

Fruits and Nuts: Clackamas County strawberries were past prime with lots of mold and soft rot showing up; too much rain for the raspberries as well. Marionberries were turning color. Multnomah County strawberries did not benefit from another wet week. Short intense storms brought another inch plus of rain. Strawberries were nearing peak in Washington County, but more pickers were needed. Raspberries and filberts were sizing. June drop was occurring in a light looking apple crop. Rainfall in the Willamette Valley has caused more rain cracking damage to an already small crop of cherries. Yamhill County experienced thunder and lightning storms with reports of large hail over the weekend. Many orchardists will have a total loss of crop this season. Heavy showers split cherries in Marion County. Polk County sweet cherry harvest has begun. Production is significantly below average. In addition, there is a large percentage of split. A few producers have reported complete losses on prunes, tart cherries and sweet cherries. Southern Willamette Valley peaches are a very nice crop; some growers are thinning. Early cherries are being picked. The last rain is causing huge splitting issues. Lots of disease and insect sprays were going on. Early raspberries are being picked; yields are below normal. Blueberries are sizing nicely; ripening has been spread out over a long period. The rain is causing lots of mold on strawberries; the crop is down 75%. There are few pickers available for the light strawberry crop. Douglas County cherries, early variety blueberries, raspberries, strawberries and currants were being harvested. Most of the berry crops have nice yields although strawberry quality has been hurt by the wet spring. Cherry set and pollination was fine, but rains in June caused cracking and brown rot. Most of the cherries are being sold u-pick and did not make commercial grade. Rainier and Royal Anne varieties were hit the hardest although Bing was hurt too. It is easy to see now that the prune crop will be the lowest in years; it looks to be down about 80% from normal. Hopes for a solid cherry harvest in Wasco County were dashed by a sky full of cold water this weekend. Light rain Thursday evening and a thorough dousing Friday meant fruit damage at this critical time in the cherry harvest. Orchardists said it was too early to tell the full extent of the damage. Damage is mixed block by block in the orchards. Later cherry varieties have fared better than the earlier varieties. Cherry harvest officially started last Monday in The Dalles area on brine cherries. Fresh market Bings are to get under way this coming Monday.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 06/19/05

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	8	12	75	5
Subsoil	14	16	68	2

Crop Progress-Week Ending 06/19/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley headed	74	47	53	62
Spring wheat headed	60	19	79	-
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.5	6.0	6.6	6.7

Crop Condition-Week Ending 06/19/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	14	24	51	11
Spring wheat	12	24	29	28	7
Barley	4	10	42	34	10
Range and pasture	1	5	18	59	17

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: The Willamette Valley continues to get rain. Our weather as been cooler than normal. Rain is causing more crop loss. Disaster conditions for cherries, prunes, strawberries, apples, pears... more to come if rains don't stop. Some of the crops that require bees to pollinate them are suffering as the weather has been too cool for them to travel very far from the hives. This could affect seed, fruit and berry crops alike. Many grass species producing seed. Peaches are a very nice crop; some growers thinning. Early cherries are being picked. The last rain is causing huge splitting issues. Lots of disease and insect sprays going on. Early raspberries are being picked; yields are below normal. Blueberries are sizing nicely; ripening has been spread out over a long period of time. Rain causing lots of mold on strawberries; crop is down 75%. Few pickers available for light strawberry crop. Radishes, shallots, new potatoes, garlic, lettuce mixes, onions, chard, chives, carrots, cauliflower, cabbage and lots of lettuces ready. Corn and green beans are up and slowly growing. Greenhouses are full of new plants; sales are mediocre.

CLACKAMAS: Another week of waiting for some haymaking weather. Downpours keep lodging hay, grain and grass seed fields. Strawberries are past prime with lots of mold and soft rot showing up. Too much rain for the raspberries also. Marionberries turning color. Vegetables fairing a little better than berries with the rain. Nurseries have been able to postpone summer irrigation for awhile. Livestock in good condition. Dryland pastures will be able to provide good forage well into the summer because of the excessive rainfall this spring.

COLUMBIA: Pasture and livestock condition good. Spring grains mostly planted and emergence is good. Sweet and field corn mostly planted.

COOS/CURRY: No cranberry frost events were recorded at this location during the week. Overcast conditions continued throughout much of the period. Brookings experienced another 3.32 inches of rainfall on the week, which was well above the average, nearly 2 inches in one 24 hour period. Although hampered by cool weather and scattered showers, hay/haylage production continued on bottom lands near the Coquille river. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Bandon: 2 days, at Brookings-Harbor: 1 day. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 55.8 at Brookings-Harbor to 56.9 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 65.7 at Bandon to 70.7 deg F at Brookings-Harbor, and lows ranged from 44.4 at Bandon to 45.4 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Precipitation ranged from 0.72" at Bandon to 3.19" at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 47 GDD at Brookings-Harbor to 50 GDD at Bandon.

DOUGLAS: This past week continued to have cool temperatures, mostly in the 60's or low 70's with a few spotty showers around. There was not enough rain to cause any delays in field work. This was the first week this spring when people could cut and swath hay, till, spray, and plant without interruption. Over the weekend soils were really drying out as winds were gusting 20-30 mph. A number of crops were maturing rapidly this past week and are now ready to harvest. We are seeing harvest activity with cherries, early variety blueberries, raspberries, strawberries and currants. Most of the berry crops have nice yields although strawberry quality has been hurt by the wet spring. Cherry set and pollination was fine but rains in June have caused cracking and brown rot. Most of the cherries are being sold u-pick and did not make commercial grade. Rainier and Royal Anne were hit the hardest although Bing hurt too. Easy to see now that the prune crop will be the lowest in years. Crop down about 80% from

normal. Ornamental crops finally improving with rain slowing down. Where fungicide sprays were used nursery crops did well. For homeowners and commercials who did not use fungicides, trees and shrubs suffered and have lost a lot of leaves to disease.

JACKSON: Most fieldwork this week was haying, wet weather came on Thursday and some hay that was down and not finished got wet. Haying and irrigating are the most active work tasks this week. For those that did get hay dried and baled it was a push to get in as much as possible before it got wet. One is never satisfied. It is either too dry or too wet! Grain crops are looking good but are now need some warmer days. Apples, pears and peaches are doing okay but they also need some warmer weather. There was 2 to 3 days of wet weather almost every week and temperatures have been a bit too cool. Lots of vegetables are now planted but they also need some warmer weather. Some early onions are about ready to use. Greenhouses are still busy with vegetable and decorative plant starts. Nurseries busy with product maintenance, feeding and weeding. There are still some sales of potted plants and shrubs. Cattle are looking quite good with the good pastures. One thing the wet weather has done is to keep pastures growing well.

MARION: Heavy showers split cherries and flattened some grass seed fields. Some downed grass hay was rained on. Some fields prepared for planting will need to be worked again.

MULTNOMAH: Another wet week. Some short intense storms brought another inch plus. Not good for strawberries or hay harvest.

POLK: Sweet cherry harvest has begun. Production is significantly below average. In addition, there is a large percentage of split. A few producers have reported complete losses on prunes, tart cherries and sweet cherries. We have received reports of fungus infecting the wheat crop and destroying the seed head. No reports of negative impacts of wet weather on grass seed. Hay quality has been decreased by rain.

WASHINGTON: High temperature was 84 degrees, low was 46 degrees with 0.5 inches of rain. Fall wheat turning color, crimson clover nearing swathing stage, red clover growing well and budding. Grass for seed maturing rapidly, hay being put up as weather permits, some hay damaged by rain. Strawberries nearing peak, need more pickers. Raspberries and filberts sizing. June drop occurring in apples; crop looks light. Sweet corn slow growing, need more heat units. Potatoes doing well. Nurseries and greenhouses are irrigating potted plants and planting new tree seedlings. Cattle look good, pastures doing better with longer light days.

YAMHILL: Rainfall in the Willamette Valley has caused more rain cracking damage to an already small crop of cherries. What few sweet and tart cherries that were on the trees have probably cracked with the heavy rain showers on Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday. The County experienced thunder and lightning storms with reports of large hail over the weekend. The storms came up out of the south with winds blowing from east to west and seems to have hit the eastern portions of the County. Many orchardists will have a total loss of crop this season. Probable losses to strawberries from the heavy rains and other fruit crops due to the hail. Heavy rains should have also taken down some of the grain crops with lodging. Reports of hay down as well.

EASTERN OREGON

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Cooler and showery weather this past week. Some concerns that the garlic crop may not size up properly due to cooler weather.

BAKER: First cutting of hay is underway. Producers who have started harvesting are having a difficult time putting up their first crop due to abnormally increased summer rains. Reports of excellent grazing conditions continue to be expressed throughout the County.

HARNEY: Late week rain and wind delaying alfalfa hay harvest. Some rain damage on hay already cut.

GILLIAM: This report includes information from producers, NRCS personnel, SWCD personnel, and FSA personnel. Crop conditions are changing daily. In the past week a significant amount of aphids have been documented in the spring planted crops. Strip rust has also been noticed. After field visits, personnel are concerned that wheat heads may not be filling. Grazing land seems to be good on the north slopes but the south slopes are stressed. Minimum spring grazing will be necessary. Some pockets of the County have above normal winter wheat crops but others are well below normal.

LAKE: Range and pasture are in very good condition. Still receiving some precipitation throughout the week.

KLAMATH: Cooler temperatures at the end of the week. Some grain crops continue to be seeded. Alfalfa harvest continues.

MALHEUR: All crops look good. Planting is done on later crops except for a few straggler fields. Main activities are irrigating, spraying and cultivating. Will be wanting hot weather soon. Few winter wheat fields showing color. Cattle and rangeland still good to excellent.

MORROW: Cooler than normal temperatures and a little moisture from a couple of thunderstorms should help the wheat a little. Storms did not do much

to slow down field activities. They were finishing planting sweet corn and getting a second cutting alfalfa in the north end. Lots of recropping of wheat this year. Spring wheat got stressed, some yields off 50 percent or more.

SHERMAN: Same conditions as last week. Cool weather helps, but a couple inches of rain over three days would be nice. With cool temperatures and showers last week, those with ripe cherries were sweating bullets. But those showers kept wheat growers hopes high for filling out those kernels of wheat. Just a little water can make the difference between 58 lb. wheat and 61 lb wheat. Crops that were dying before May rains are dying again, but with heads this time. All grain is turning color; some due to natural maturity, some due to drought impact. Winter wheat is ripening very fast with some fields in the north looking very golden. The farther south you go the greener the fields. Harvest in the north may start by the 4th! Am glad I didn't plant any re-crop spring stuff!

UNION: Haying has been delayed by thunderstorms.

WALLOWA: Although there was a threat of rain throughout the week, it never materialized until the end of the week. As a result, lower valley farmers were able to continue with their haying activities. No change in range conditions.

WASCO: Hopes for a solid local cherry harvest were dashed by a sky full of cold water this weekend. Light rain Thursday evening and a thorough dousing Friday meant fruit damage at this critical time in the cherry harvest. The rain penetrates the cherry skins and both dilutes the sugar content and causes the fruit to burst. Orchardist said it was too early to the full extent of the damage. Damage is mixed block by block in the orchards. Later cherry varieties have fared better than the earlier varieties. Cherry harvest officially started last Monday in The Dalles area on brine cherries. Fresh market Bings are to get under way this coming Monday. The winter wheat fields in the early areas have turned a golden color. Harvest on these fields is only a couple of weeks away. Green colored fields are almost extinct for this crop year. Hay growers are irrigating the second cutting crop that is a foot high now. Cattle continue to do well on mostly good pastures.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: June 19, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)

Station	Air temperature ¹				Growing ² Degree days		Last week precip. ³			Season cum. Precipitation ⁴			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	45	74	59	+3	65	+16	0.35	-0.21	5	58.21	-4.88	92	168
Bandon ⁵	44	66	57	+2	49	+7	0.74	0.39	4	57.17	0.08	100	155
Crescent City	45	64	56	-1	42	-5	2.43	2.13	4	56.03	-7.48	88	125
Florence	41	70	58	+1	58	+5	0.73	0.17	5	63.96	-9.56	87	155
Tillamook	40	69	56	+1	45	+3	0.85	0.10	5	71.06	-13.13	84	167
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁵	47	83	62	+0	83	+2	0.42	0.02	3	30.58	-8.30	79	151
Corvallis	43	81	62	+2	86	+9	0.12	-0.16	4	20.46	-20.45	50	115
Detroit Lake ⁵	45	81	58	+0	58	+0	1.99	1.48	6	40.85	-23.80	63	108
Eugene	39	75	59	-4	65	-19	0.37	0.03	5	25.64	-21.69	54	137
Hillsboro	39	81	59	-3	65	-16	0.44	0.09	3	25.82	-9.66	73	149
McMinnville	42	81	60	-3	67	-13	0.51	0.28	4	24.12	-17.52	58	146
Portland	47	82	62	-3	86	-9	0.70	0.35	5	26.89	-7.21	79	150
Salem	44	80	60	-2	71	-10	0.27	-0.06	2	26.08	-11.32	70	131
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	47	83	62	-5	85	-30	0.38	0.24	3	28.70	-1.48	95	109
Medford	46	80	63	-5	89	-27	0.35	0.21	4	17.70	-0.20	99	94
Roseburg	45	77	62	-2	86	-9	0.10	-0.11	3	28.25	-3.18	90	115
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	36	72	55	-5	38	-31	0.06	-0.19	1	10.59	-1.97	84	88
Echo ⁵	45	86	63	-5	93	-28	-	-0.10	-	5.08	-3.13	62	97
Heppner	42	77	59	-5	67	-28	0.08	-0.13	2	9.84	-2.76	78	99
Hermiston	42	87	64	-4	98	-23	-	-0.10	-	5.81	-2.40	71	63
John Day	39	78	57	-6	48	-36	0.01	-0.34	1	10.99	-0.43	96	104
Madras ⁵	37	77	56	-6	45	-38	0.14	-0.06	3	8.96	-0.24	97	102
Moro	39	76	59	-3	61	-19	-	-0.14	-	8.47	-1.67	84	92
Parkdale ⁵	37	80	56	-7	41	-46	0.45	0.31	3	20.11	-9.64	68	134
Pendleton	45	84	61	-6	80	-35	0.31	0.17	2	8.39	-2.54	77	89
The Dalles	47	86	64	+3	97	+16	0.38	0.24	3	8.91	-2.60	77	88
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁵	40	71	54	-5	29	-26	0.23	0.02	3	13.35	-1.50	90	83
Bend	34	74	54	-5	26	-30	0.03	-0.18	1	11.92	1.60	116	76
Burns	32	76	55	-4	36	-23	0.20	-0.01	2	11.65	3.03	135	94
Christmas Valley ⁵	28	75	51	-12	13	-70	0.11	-0.12	3	9.92	-1.05	90	86
Klamath Falls	35	75	52	-10	22	-56	0.21	0.07	2	11.36	-0.95	92	81
Klamath Falls ⁵	35	73	52	-10	17	-61	0.10	-0.04	3	10.62	-1.69	86	112
Lakeview	34	73	52	-7	22	-46	0.02	-0.26	1	7.78	-6.59	54	62
Lorella ⁵	35	77	53	-9	24	-54	0.24	0.10	5	12.51	0.20	102	119
Redmond	30	76	54	-6	31	-38	0.05	-0.10	3	9.43	2.10	129	81
Worden ⁵	33	74	51	-10	16	-62	0.02	-0.12	1	10.59	-1.72	86	97
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	29	81	55	-7	38	-37	0.27	-0.08	1	9.66	0.77	109	89
Joseph	36	76	53	-2	25	-13	0.20	-0.22	3	17.22	-5.12	77	119
La Grande	36	82	57	-6	53	-36	1.03	0.68	3	11.16	-4.27	72	90
Prairie City ⁵	33	75	54	-1	27	-9	0.20	-0.18	3	12.49	-6.16	67	85
Union	35	83	56	-5	46	-26	0.54	0.17	2	13.32	1.60	114	101
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	38	86	64	-5	100	-33	0.36	0.20	2	7.26	-1.56	82	56
Rome	34	89	61	-4	76	-27	0.09	-0.12	1	7.81	0.70	110	69

¹ Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. ² Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. ³ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. ⁴ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. ⁵ Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.

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